

GUIDE TO THE NU37 TEPOZTLAN FILE

/The NU37 file unit covers the modern period beginning ca. 1920 and includes the eight villages of the municipality of Tepoztlan: Tepoztlan, San Juanico (Tlacotepec), Santo Domingo (Ocotitlan), Amatlan, Ixcatepec, Santiago (Tepetlapa), San Andres (Lacalera) and Gabriel Mariaca (Santa Catarina). Since this file unit is a political subdivision of a national state, information in this file would also pertain to file unit NU1 Mexico and occasional general data not specifically related to Tepoztlan has been marked for NU1. Special decisions were necessary for handling the political relations of Tepoztlan with the Mexican national government (see "special marking decisions" below).

This file has been included in the HRAF sample to provide an example of a modern mestizo community in Middle America. There was also a good literature available in English. For a short summary outline of the culture see 5: Lewis, pp. 405-406.

The authors are all professionally-trained anthropologists. Lewis was aided by a team of research personnel. (See 2: Lewis, preface and introduction, for a discussion of field methodology and 5: Lewis for insight into difficulties encountered in establishing rapport and making use of psychological testing methods.) Field work was done ca. 1926 and 1943-56 and each author spent approximately one year in the field.

Source 1: Redfield is well-known as a classic in community studies, and Redfield's first statement on the nature of the folk society. Subjects well covered include material culture, the ceremonial calendar, magic and religion, and popular literature. 2: Lewis is a restudy of the same community with an emphasis on

changes occurring in the time between the two studies. Special attention was paid to those aspects of village life that Redfield had only touched upon: land problems, agriculture, wealth, politics, life cycle and interpersonal relations. Lewis restudied the community again in 1956 and source 3 examines the intervening changes. These three sources taken together give a comprehensive coverage of almost every aspect of Tepoztecan culture over a twenty-year period.

The other sources give added depth to certain aspects of the culture. 4: Spitzer is a discussion of religious life made by an anthropologist who is also a practicing Catholic. 5: Lewis gives additional information on medical beliefs and practices, the power structure of the village, political maneuvering by those in office, the formation of public opinion and interpersonal relations.

This is a well-rounded file, with some information in almost every category pertinent to the culture. While not every subject is covered in equal depth, the basic material is there making this file an excellent one for cross-cultural research.

Special marking decisions are as follows:

- 646 - Municipal Council (Presidente, Secretary, Ayudantes, Juez)
- 631 - Municipality
- 621 - Barrio as a division of a town
- 624 - Ejido authorities
- 631 and 642 - Caciques
- 476 - Cuatequitl (co-operative labor)
- 653 - Cuatequitl or co-operative labor for public works

648 - Relations with the Mexican national government

65 categories - activities of Mexican national government affecting Tepoztlan

619 - Mexican nationalism

669 - Mexican Revolution - 1910-20

794 - Barrio as a religious congregation

794 - Mayordomo

759 - Curandero, herb doctor

851 - Sacamisa

527 - Carnaval and Altepe-ihuitl (two secular festivals) /

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